

灣仔區議員黎大偉辦事處

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OBJECT to any further amendment to Inland Revenue (Amendment) Bill 2013

I am writing to OBJECT to any further amendment to Inland Revenue (Amendment) Bill 2013 based on the Legal Service Division Report for the following reasons:

1. The issue of privacy: The relaxation of Clause 8 to amend Section 4 is a further violation of privacy of personal information related to income or finances. There is no clause requiring the permission of the individual.
2. The issue of sovereignty: Based on the structure of the Basic Law, Hong Kong is part of China and is not subject to any other nations' financial or tax law or jurisdiction. There is neither need nor obligation for the government of Hong Kong to release any information of its citizens to a foreign entity.
3. The issue of competitiveness: Hong Kong is known for its freedom of trade and business. The business model is based on less intervention from the government in the commerce. If financial information of Hong Kong's residents is released to a foreign country or any entity related to a foreign country, that is a negative impact for investors or financier who do not like to have their financial information release without their knowledge and approval. These investments may go away from Hong Kong.
4. The issue of Double Taxation: It is unnecessary for Hong Kong to amend its protection of information of its citizens or residents to a foreign to eliminate double taxation by Hong Kong and the foreign country. This task can be left to the individual or entity to handle with the foreign entity or foreign agencies.

I ask members of the Legislative Council to withhold support of amendment to Inland Revenue Bill 2013 which will result in, and not limited to the above points.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the Chinese characters '黎大偉' (Lai David) written in a cursive, stylized font.

David Lai